

## Message Text

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14-11

ORIGIN COME-00

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DRAFTED BY BEWT/TPD/562/JVBUSHERY/LWH

APPROVED BY EB/OCA/REP/JBRABENS

BEWT/TPD/BATHOMPSON

BEWT/EEAD/JELLIS

EUR/EE/RCHRISTENSEN

EB/EWT/JBEMIS

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R 212155Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

UNCLAS STATE 039835

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, CZ

SUBJECT: SYMPOMECH, 1975

PRAGUE FOR FRARRAND

1. BEWT/TPD HAS REVIEWED AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON THE SYMPOMECH SHOW. WE ARE NOT OPPOSED, IN PRINCIPLE, TO PARTICIPATING. DUE TO BUDGET RESTRICTIONS, HOWEVER, EVEN IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE FOR FREE SPACE AND FACILITIES, IT WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO FUND THE OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE SHOW, SUCH AS SHIPPING, INDUSTRY EXPERT AND INTERPRETERS, THAT WE CONSIDER NECESSARY.

2. BECAUSE WE WOULD LIKE TO ESTIMATE THE MARKET POTENTIAL AND WHETHER OR NOT THE US PRODUCES ITEMS WITH COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES, WE ARE CONSIDERING HAVING SOME ONE ATTEND THE FAIR TO DO MARKET RESEARCH FOR POSSIBLE COMMERCE PARTICIPATION IN 1977. IF AN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDS THE SHOW, WE WOULD APPRECIATE HIS APPRAISAL OF THE QUALITY AND TYPES OF EXHIBITS.

3. WE WERE PLEASED TO HEAR ABOUT THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN

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DELEGATION ATTENDING CONEXPO IN CHICAGO AND HAVE ALERTED

THE CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE, WHICH IS DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE THEIR STAY PRODUCTIVE. IF THE DELEGATION STOPS IN WASHINGTON, WE SHALL BE GLAD TO MEET WITH THEM

AND FURTHER EXPLORE POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION AT SYMPOMECH IN 1977.

4. THE TRADE PROMOTION BUDGET IS UNLIKELY TO IMPROVE SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS. IN PLANNING OUR EXHIBITION SCHEDULE WE WELCOME EMBASSY'S COMMENTS AS TO THE PRIORITY THAT SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO SYMPOMECH. IF EMBASSY THINKS IT IS ADVISABLE, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO SUBSTITUTE AN EXHIBITION AT SYMPOMECH FOR ONE AT BRNO.

5. PLEASE INFORM MR. MATEJKA OF OUR DECISION, WHICH WAS MADE WITH REGRET. KISSINGER

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